

In the Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of acquisition of participants in a video telephony session comprising the steps of :

building a visual enumeration list of humans in the video telephony session for the camera to focus on wherein the building step includes comparing a stored bit map of the faces of participants with a received bit map from the camera;

determining locations of the humans by determining the location of the faces in the image; and controlling the camera to hop directly from human to human.

2. (currently amended) The method of Claim1 wherein said building step includes highlighting a human face display received from said camera and prompting users to identify if that human is to be included.

3. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein each person's face is tagged in a training session and the humans to be included are called out or otherwise determined by the tag.

4. (original)The method of Claim 1 wherein the locations of the human faces are determined and stored.

5. (cancelled) The method of Claim 1 wherein the building step includes comparing a stored bit map of the faces of participants with a received bit map from the camera and the locating step determines the location of the faces in the image.

6. (original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the camera includes a drive circuit responsive to the stored locations for driving the camera to focus on the faces.

7. (original) The method of Claim 1 including the step of designating a target person in a whisper target mode, and diverting videophone mike and speakers out of shared audio to private conversation.

8. (original) The method of Claim 7 including the step of automatically calling designated person's private phone when designating a target person as the whisper target.

9. (original) The method of Claim 8 wherein the designated target person's cellphone is called.

10. (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein said designating step includes highlighting the target person on the video screen.

11. (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein said designating step includes removing all other humans on the screen but the target person.

Al 12. (original) The method of Claim 7 wherein the step of escaping from the whisper mode uses a remote.

13. (original) The method of Claim 1 including the step of a voyeurism mode designating a target person for viewing without notice.

14. (original) The method of Claim 13 wherein said camera on the other end zooms on the target person for viewing.

15. (original) The method of Claim 13 wherein the target person's view of user's view only has a freeze frame view of user's view before going into the voyeurism mode.

16. (original) The method of Claim 13 including the step of escaping from the voyeurism mode using a remote.

17. (new) A method of selective acquisition of participants in a video telephony session comprising the steps of :

providing videophone mike and speakers for selective participants in a video telephony session to operate in a shared mode;

building a visual enumeration list of multiple humans in a single display in the video telephony session for the camera to focus on;

determining locations of the humans;

controlling the camera to hop directly from human to human in a shared mode; and

designating a target person of the multiple humans in a single display in a whisper target mode, and diverting videophone mike and speakers and camera out of shared audio and visual mode to private video and conversation.

18. (new) The method of Claim 17 wherein said designating step includes highlighting the target person on the video screen.

REMARKS

Claim 1 is amended to contain the elements of Claim 5. Claim 5 is therefore cancelled. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ojala et al. (WO 98/19458 A1 hereinafter Ojala) in view of Bianchi (U.S. patent no. 5,434,617 hereinafter Bianchi).

Claim 1, as amended, calls for "building a visual enumeration list of humans in the video telephony session for the camera to focus on wherein the building step includes comparing a stored bit map of the faces of participants with a received bit map from the camera." This is not taught in Ojala or Bianchi. In Ojala, the desired camera position information is saved by taking the relevant video image 15 onto icons. This just saves the camera to a position identified by an